

HIGHER EDUCATION ENROLLMENT

Key Findings: Canada, France, Germany, Italy, United Kingdom, United States

In 1999, the United States had a full-time and part-time enrollment rate of 20 percent in higher education for adults ages 18 to 29. The enrollment rate for this age group was higher in the United States than in the other six countries presented (figure 24a).

Enrollment rates in higher education for adults ages 18 to 29 in the United States were 21 percent in 1994 and 20 percent in 1999. Between 1994 and 1999, enrollment rates in France and Germany increased by 1 percentage point, and the enrollment rate in the United Kingdom increased by 3 percentage points. As a result, all three countries narrowed the gap with the United States over the period. In contrast, the enrollment rate in Canada declined between 1994 and 1999. As a result, the United States moved from second to first place in the proportion of adults ages 18 to 29 enrolled in higher education.

Almost 3 out of 10 adults ages 18 to 24 in the United States (28 percent) were enrolled full time or part time in higher educa-

tion in 1999. The United States had a higher enrollment rate for this age group than Canada, the United Kingdom, Italy, and Germany, which had enrollment rates of 24 percent, 22 percent, 23 percent, and 15 percent, respectively. However, the enrollment rate of 18-to-24-year-olds in the United States was lower than the rate in France (30 percent) (figure 24b).

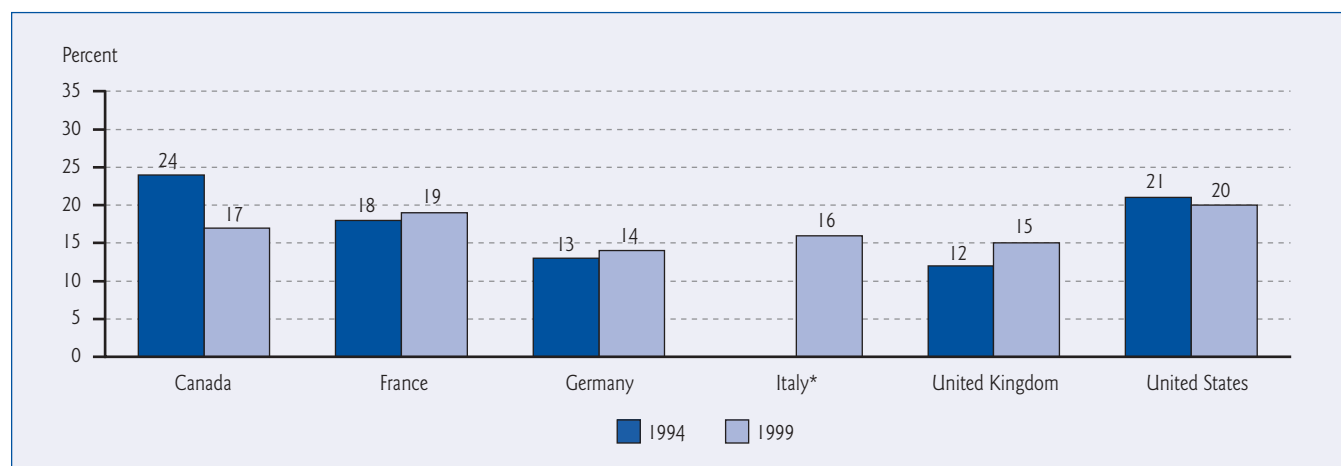
A much smaller proportion of adults ages 25 to 29 was enrolled full time and part time in higher education in the United States (10 percent) in 1999 compared to 18- to 24-year-olds. The proportion in the United States was higher than the proportions in Italy (9 percent), Canada (7 percent), the United Kingdom (6 percent), and France (5 percent), but was lower than the proportion in Germany (12 percent).

Definition and Methodology

The percentage of the population at a given age enrolled in education is called an “enrollment rate” in international comparisons. In this indicator, the term “enrollment rate” refers to “net enrollment rate.” Net enrollment rate is defined as the number of students in a particular age group enrolled in education divided by

the population of the same age group. Enrollments include full-time and part-time students in public and private institutions of higher education, ages 18 to 24 and 25 to 29 in 1999, and for ages 18 to 29 in 1994 and 1999.

Figure 24a. Percentage of the population ages 19 to 29 enrolled full time and part time in higher education, by country: 1994 and 1999

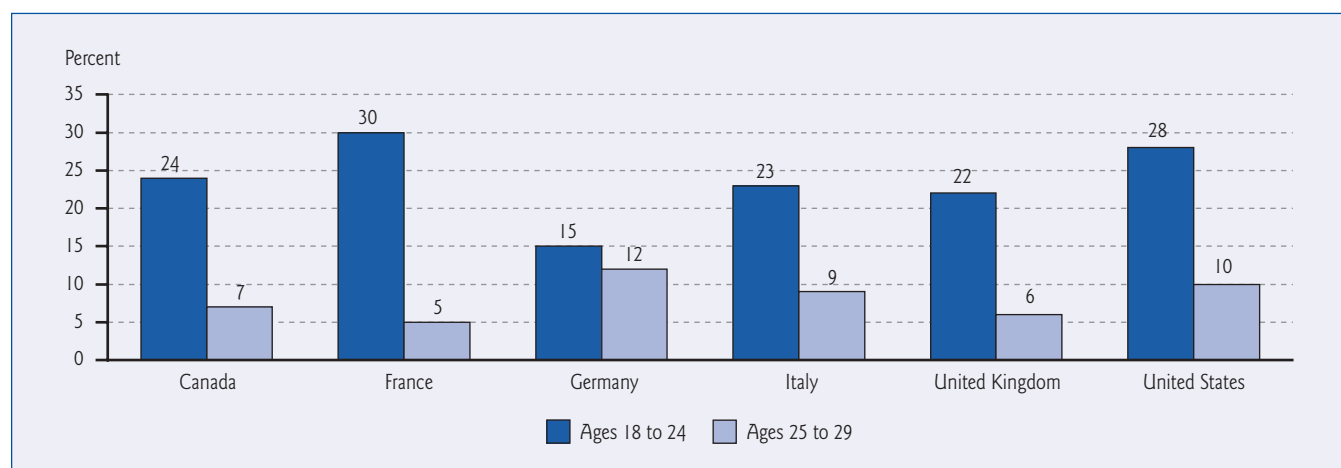


*Data not available for Italy in 1994.

NOTE: The United Kingdom includes England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, and Wales. Data on doctoral students are missing for Germany and Italy in 1999.

SOURCE: Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, Education Database, 2001; U.S. Census Bureau, International Programs Center, 2002.

Figure 24b. Percentage of the population ages 19 to 29 enrolled full time and part time in higher education, by selected age group and country: 1999



NOTE: The United Kingdom includes England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, and Wales. Data on doctoral students are missing for Germany and Italy in 1999.

SOURCE: Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, Education Database, 2001; U.S. Census Bureau, International Programs Center, 2002.

Higher Education Enrollment – Data Tables

Table A-24a. Percentage of the population ages 18 to 29 enrolled full-time and part-time in higher education, by country: 1994 and 1999

Country	Year	
	1994	1999
Canada	24	17
France	18	19
Germany	13	14
Italy	—	16
United Kingdom	12	15
United States	21	20

— Data not available or missing.

NOTE: The United Kingdom includes England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, and Wales. Data on doctoral students are missing for Germany and Italy in 1999.

SOURCE: Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, Education Database, 2001; U.S. Census Bureau, International Programs Center, 2002.

Table A-24b. Percentage of the population ages 18 to 29 enrolled full-time and part-time in higher education, by country: 1999

Country	Age group	
	18 to 24	25 to 29
Canada	24	7
France	30	5
Germany	15	12
Italy	23	9
United Kingdom	22	6
United States	28	10

NOTE: The United Kingdom includes England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, and Wales. Data on doctoral students are missing for Germany and Italy in 1999.

SOURCE: Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, Education Database, 2001; U.S. Census Bureau, International Programs Center, 2002.